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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (original) A method for determining whether a compound is capable of inhibiting the interaction of a peptide with a receptor for advanced glycation end product (RAGE), which comprises:

(a) admixing:

(i) the peptide, wherein amino groups of the peptide are inactivated by chemical derivatization,

(ii) RAGE or a fragment thereof, and

(iii) the compound;

(b) determining the amount of the peptide bound to the RAGE or the fragment thereof; and

(c) comparing the amount of bound peptide determined in step (b) with the amount determined when the peptide is admixed with RAGE or a fragment thereof in the absence of the compound, thereby determining whether the compound is capable of inhibiting the interaction of the peptide with RAGE or fragment

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thereof, wherein a reduction in the amount of binding in the presence of the compound indicates that the compound is capable of inhibiting the interaction.

Claim 2-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (original) A method for inhibiting the interaction of an advanced glycation endproduct (AGE) with a receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE) in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an amount of a compound effective to inhibit the interaction between the AGE and the RAGE in the subject.

Claim 33-48 (canceled)

Claim 49 (original) A method for inhibiting the interaction of an advanced glycation endproduct (AGE) with a receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE) in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an amount of quinine or a derivative thereof effective to inhibit the interaction between the AGE and the RAGE in subject.

Claim 50 (canceled)

Claim 51 (original) A method for inhibiting the interaction of an advanced glycation endproduct (AGE) with a receptor for advanced glycation endproduct (RAGE) in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an amount of guninidine or a derivative thereof effective to inhibit

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the interaction between the AGE and the RAGE in subject.

Claims 52-57 (canceled)